

A
FLEETWAY
LIBRARY

WAR
PICTURE
LIBRARY
No 182
1/-

DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND



4

ALL-ACTION ISSUES EVERY MONTH

★ No. 93 **DEADLINE AT DAWN**

It was a test of endurance, a miracle of survival!

★ No. 94 **STALK—AND KILL**

Both hunter and hunted have a sixth sense—an instinct for danger!

★ No. 95 **ON GUARD**

He was always there when danger threatened . . .

★ No. 96 **THE FIRE-EATERS**

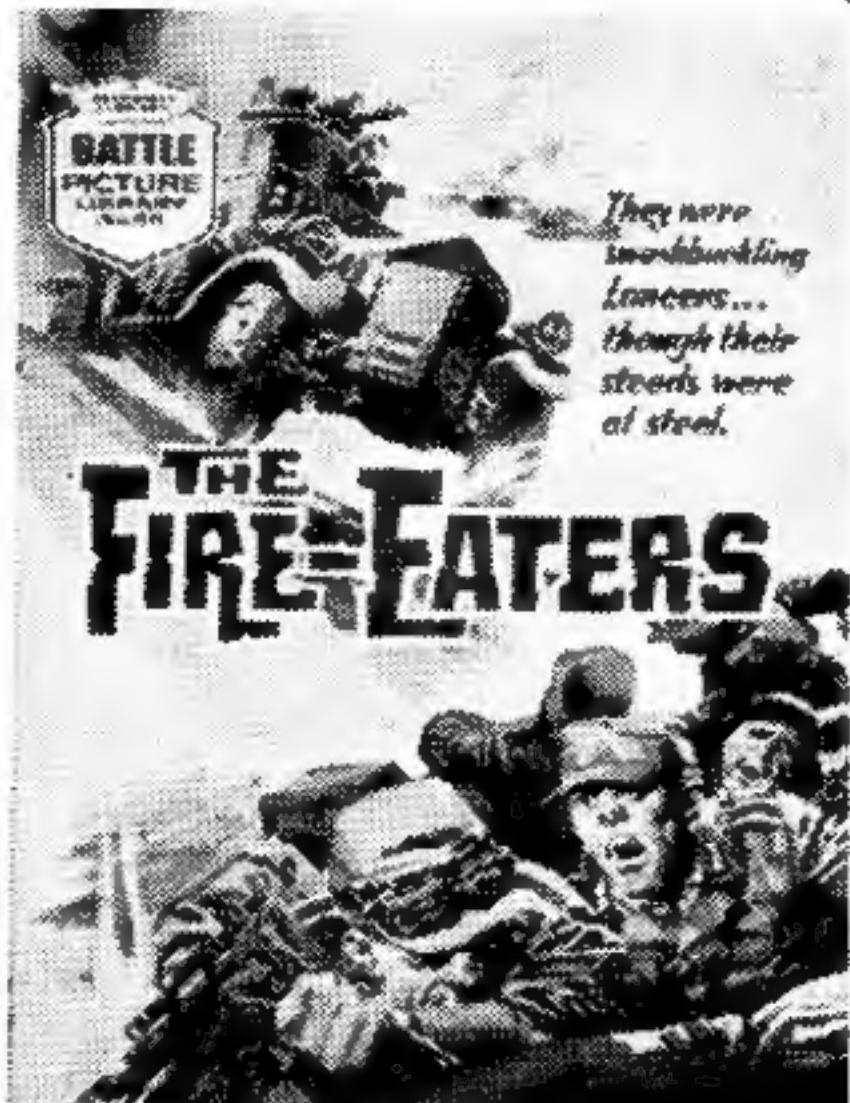
They were swashbuckling Lancers . . . though their steeds were of steel.

BATTLE PICTURE LIBRARY

On Sale

Monday 18th Feb.

MAKE SURE
Order your copies
NOW!



DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND

A GERMAN MORTAR COUGHED THICKLY A BOMB ARCHED HIGH. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1940 THAT LERVIK HAD HEARD A SHOT FIRED IN ANGER...



Chapter 1. Dark Landing

LEIRVIK, IN NAZI-OCCUPIED NORWAY... A LITTLE TOWN UNHEARD OF TWO YEARS AGO, BUT NOW THE SITE OF INSTALLATIONS VITAL TO THE GERMAN WAR-EFFORT...

THIS SHOULD BE A NIGHT TO REMEMBER THE NIGHT OF THE SIXTH OF APRIL, NINETEEN-FORTY-TWO. NO, IT IS LONG PAST MIDNIGHT, THE DAWN CAN'T BE FAR OFF. THE DATE IS THE SEVENTH.



OUT TO SEA, EMERGING FROM A SMOKE-SCREEN LAID BY ESCORT SHIPS, BRITISH LANDING-CRAFT-PERSONNEL* FROM A PARENT-VESSEL WERE PLoughING TOWARDS THE SHORE.

ANY
MINUTE
NOW, BOYS!
GET SET!



Devil's Playground

IN THOSE LANDING-CRAFT WERE MEN OF 5 TROOP,
NUMBER 14/40 COMMANDO. NERVES TIGHT WITH
TENSION, THEY WERE THE MEN AT THE 'SHARP END'—
THE MEN WHO WERE SPEARHEADING THE RAID...

AMOOSH!
THAT WAS
CLOSE, AND NO
MISTAKE!

YOU
CAN SAY
THAT AGAIN,
CAPTAIN
BARRY!

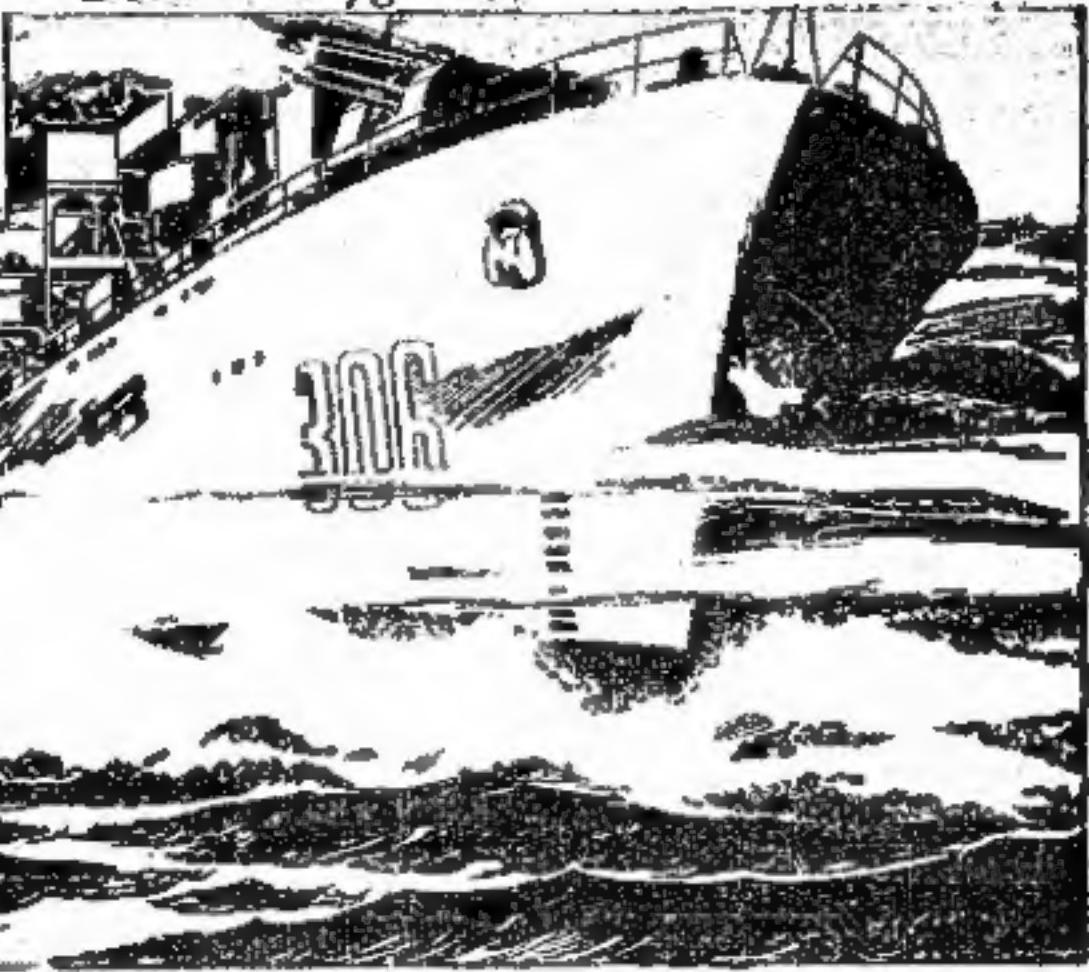
CLOSE, SURE ENOUGH—AND ONLY THE OPENING GAMBIT IN A SAVAGE
GALUTATION... THE PRELUDE TO A VOLLEY OF BOMBS FROM A WHOLE
BATTERY OF HEAVY MORTARS...

THE JERRIES
ARE WARMING UP,
SIR. WELL, NOBODY
THOUGHT THIS WAS
GOING TO BE
A PICNIC.

WAIT TILL
THE GUNS OF
THE ESCORT-SHIPS
CRACK DOWN. THEY'LL
KNOCK THE STEAM
OUT OF THEM!

Devil's Playground

A COUPLE OF
BRITISH DESTROYERS
NOSED THROUGH
THE SMOKE-SCREEN
AND OPENED FIRE ON
THE GERMAN DEFENCES.



...AND ON THE
RECEIVING-END...

AARGH!



Devil's Playground

5

THE NAZIS SUSTAINED CASUALTIES,
BUT THAT MORTAR BATTERY WAS
NOT SILENCED COMPLETELY...



IT SEEMS
THEY ARE
GOOD MARKSMEN,
THE BRITISH NAVAL
GUNNERS... BUT ARE
THEY GOOD ENOUGH?
THE GERMANS ARE
SO WELL DUG-IN

ODDLY ENOUGH, NOW THAT THE HEAT WAS ON, THE
COMMANDOS WERE NO LONGER KEYED UP. THE
STRAIN HAD EBBED FROM THEIR FACES...



RAMPS
DOWN, BOYS!
STAND BY!

Devil's Playground

FIRST ASHORE WAS CAPTAIN MIKE BARRY, AND BRIGHTLY SO. IT WAS HIS PRIVILEGE, AS COMMANDER OF G TROOP... IF YOU COULD CALL IT A "PRIVILEGE"?

COME ON, LADS! WE'RE PRACTICALLY HOME AND DRY!



A SPANDAU STAMMERED A HOT WELCOME AT CLOSE RANGE. MIKE BARRY LATCHED ON TO IT—LET RIP AT THE ROOT-SOURCE OF THE TRACER IT WAS POURING OUT...



Devil's Playground

THE MEN WHO HAD SHARED
MIKE'S L.C.P. SWARMED UP
THE BEACH AFTER HIM...

COME ON,
HURRY IT UP
LADS! GET
STUCK IN!

THERE WERE GROUPS OF
NAZIS ALL ALONG THE
STRIP OF BEACH. THE
COMMANDOS MOVED UP
AND PITCHED IN!

DONNER
UND BLITZEN!
RUN FOR IT,
COMRADES!

Devil's Playground

THE FORESHORE WAS CLEARED OF THE ENEMY IN NO TIME. MIKE WAS REORGANISING HIS MEN WHEN A LANDING-CRAFT DISGORGED THE UNIT'S COMMANDING OFFICER AND H.Q. GROUP...

WHAT'S THE SITUATION, BARRY?



WELL, SIR,
WE'VE MOPPED
UP THE
BEACH...

IF THAT'S SUPPOSED
TO BE A SALUTE, I
DON'T THINK MUCH OF
IT! SLOPPY! THAT'S
WHAT IT IS!
NOT THE TIME
TO REPRIMAND
HIM NOW, BUT
I'LL GIVE HIM
A WIGGING
LATER.



Devil's Playground

"OLD BLOOD AND THUNDER" THAT'S WHAT THEY CALLED DELANEY - LATE OF THE GUARDS, LIKE FOUR-FIFTHS OF HIS OFFICERS AND MEN...



EH? WHAT'S THAT? MOPPED UP THE BEACH? YOU HAVE, HAVE YOU? THEN WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU DOING HERE? GET YOUR MISFITS TOGETHER AND STRIKE INLAND!

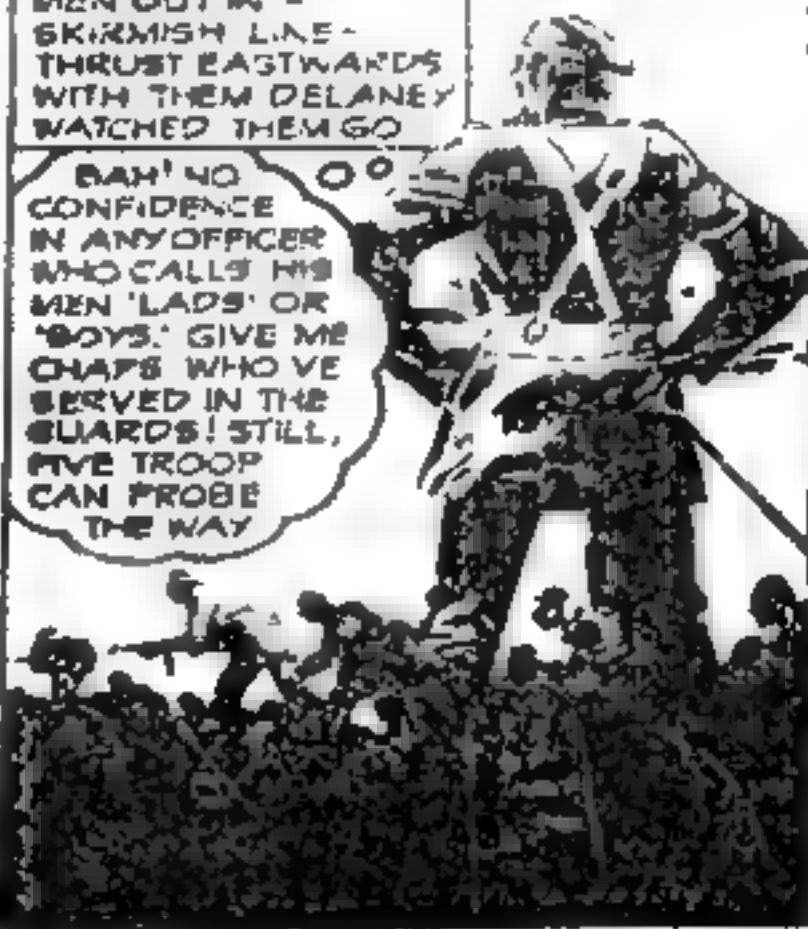
MISFITS! MIKE'S FACE BURNED . . .

THIS HALF-COLONEL WOULD NEVER GIVE ME OR ANY OF MY LADS CREDIT FOR BEING GOOD SOLDIERS! WE'RE NOT EX-GUARDSMEN!

WELL, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? WHEN I GIVE AN ORDER I EXPECT IT TO BE OBEYED - INSTANTLY!

MIKE SPREAD HIS MEN OUT IN A SKIRMISH LINE - THRUST EASTWARDS WITH THEM DELANEY WATCHED THEM GO

BAH! NO CONFIDENCE IN ANY OFFICER WHO CALLS HIS MEN 'LADS' OR 'BOYS'. GIVE ME CHAPS WHOVE SERVED IN THE GUARDS! STILL, FIVE TROOP CAN PROBE THE WAY



19 Devil's Playground

NUMBER 1 TROOP LANDED JUST AS THE NAZIS SHOWERED THEIR TEETH AGAIN AND COULD SPOT THE BEACH WITH BOMBS.

YOU MEN THERE! DO YOU WANT TO GET YOURSELVES KILLED? GET DOWN AND DIG IN! MINIMUM OF FIVE-YARD INTERVALS.



"OLD BLOOD AND THUNDER HAD HIS FAILINGS, BUT LACK OF NERVE WAS NOT ONE OF THEM..."

I KNEW IT! HE ASKED FOR IT -AND BY GOLLY, HE'S GOT IT! SO HAVE I!



Devil's Playground

HURLED DOWN BY THE BLAST OF THE MORTAR, BUT MIRACULOUSLY UNHARMED, COLONEL AND ADJUTANT GATHERED THEIR WITS. DELANEY CALLED OUT IN A PEPPERY MANNER...



THE COLONEL CLIMBED TO HIS FEET-DUSTED HIMSELF DOWN IRITABLY. THEN HE SAW MIKE BARRY APPROACHING, WITH A CIVILIAN...



COLONEL
DELANEY, HERE'S
A MAN WHO SAYS
HE HAS INFORMATION
INFORMATION THAT
COULD BE USEFUL
TO US, HE THINKS.

Devil's Pig, ground

THE NORWEGIAN CIVILIAN STOPPED. CLEARLY, HE DID NOT MEAN TO DRAW ANY NEARER WHILE THE BEACH WAS UNDER BOMBARDMENT.

HE SAYS HIS NAME'S LAUR NIELSEN. SIR SPEAKS ENGLISH AFTER A FASHION. ACCORDING TO HIM, OUR BEST BET IS TO STRIKE NORTHEAST VIA A BIG, EMPTY HOUSE THAT OVERLOOKS THE TOWN AND THE INSTALLATIONS THE GERMANS HAVE SET UP.



THE COLONEL WAS INTERESTED. HE INTERROGATED NILSEN CLOSELY AND TURNED AT LENGTH TO MIKE AGAIN.

BARRY, REJOIN YOUR MEN AND TAKE THEM DIRECTLY TO THE HOUSE OUR HELPFUL NORWEGIAN HAS DESCRIBED. IF THE HUNS RUSH UP ANY TROOPS THERE, HOLD THE PLACE AT ALL COSTS. I'LL FOLLOW ON WHEN THE REST OF THE COMMANDO HAS LANDED.



Devil's Playground

D'YOU THINK IT'S WISE
TO PIN SO MUCH FAITH
ON A FELLOW WE KNOW
NOTHING ABOUT, SIR?
AFTER ALL, HE COULD
BE A COWLING, SIR -
A TRAITOR...

QUINLINE.
'MY FOOT! I
PRIDE MYSELF ON
BEING A JUDGE OF
CHARACTER, AND HE'S
A PATRIOT, IF EVER I
SAW ONE. SCARED STIFF
OF BEING UNDER FIRE,
YET READY TO RISK
HIS SKIN TO MAKE
TROUBLE FOR
THE NAZIS.'



ALL THE SAME, SIR,
WOULDN'T A RECONNAISSANCE
BE ADVISABLE - JUST
AS A CHECK?

BARRY, THAT HOUSE
IS OBVIOUSLY A
KEY-POINT. IN ENEMY
HANDS, IT COULD SPELL
THE FAILURE OF OUR
MISSION. I WANT IT -
AND I WANT IT
QUICK!



MIKE SWUNG ROUND WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD
AND MADE TRACKS FOR WHERE HE HAD LEFT
HIS MEN. OUT OF THE TAIL OF HIS EYE, HE SAW
NILSEN SCURRYING OFF...

IS HE GENUINE, OR
ISN'T HE? I'D LIKE TO
KNOW FOR CERTAIN,
ONE WAY OR THE
OTHER...



BUT HE DID NOT KNOW... NOR DID HE KNOW THAT FOR THE
NEXT TWELVE MONTHS THE ENIGMA WAS TO HAUNT HIM
UNRELENTINGLY - WITH THE GHOSTS OF HALF-A-HUNDRED MEN

Chapter 2. First Light

THERE WAS A FALSE DAWN IN THE EASTERN SKY AND
MIKE BARRY LED HIS TROOP FORWARD.
THEY MADE OUT RISING GROUND AHEAD...

IT'S CRACK OF DAWN,
SERGEANT-MAJOR.

IT'S NOT
THE TRUE DAWN,
CAPTAIN BARRY.
THERE'S SUCH A
THING AS A FALSE
DAWN, REMEMBER.

A FALSE DAWN. THE INNOCENT PHRASE HAD AN OMINOUS SING. WOULD THE
TRUE DAWN PROVE FALSE WHEN IT CAME—
FALSE WITH THE SMEAR OF TREACHERY ON IT?

THERE'S THE PLACE THE NORWEGIAN
DESCRIBED BEYOND IT, THE LAND
FALLS SHARPLY TO THE LITTLE
TOWN OF LERVIK—AND THE
INSTALLATIONS IT'S OUR
JOB TO DESTROY.

ALL'S QUET
UP THERE, SIR.
NOT A SIGN OF
LIFE. IT'S EMPTY,
ALL RIGHT I'D LAY
ODDS ON IT.

Devil's Playground

15

NOW IT WAS TRULY DAWN. THE BIG HOUSE STOOD OUT WITH SHARP CLARITY. MIKE SQUARED HIS SHOULDERS...

WHERE'S THE REST OF THE COMMANDO? WHAT D'YOU SUPPOSE THOSE PERISHING GUARDSMEN ARE DOING?

PROBABLY FORMIN' SQUARE, MATE. SAME AS THEY DID AT THE BATTLE O' WATERLOO.



ONE MORE STEP, AND THEN —
BARRY JERKED TO A HALT!

HOLD IT!
BACK,
EVERYBODY!

WHAT'S
WRONG,
SIR?



Devil's Playground

MIKE WAS NOT SURE IF ANYTHING WAS WRONG. HE ONLY KNEW HE DID NOT INTEND TO JEOPARDISE HIS MEN'S LIVES RECKLESSLY, WHATEVER AN EX-GUARDEE COLONEL MIGHT SAY...



I THOUGHT I GOT A SQUINT OF A JERRY IN ONE OF THE UPPER WINDOWS. I'M NOT RUNNING ANY RISKS. WE'LL CIRCLE ROUND SO WE CAN LOOK AT THAT PLACE FROM CLOSER AT HAND.

THE CAPTAIN PAUSED TO SEND BACK A RUNNER WITH A MESSAGE TO THE UNIT'S COMMANDING OFFICER...

AND TELL THE CO. I'LL SEND UP A SIGNAL WITH MY VERBAL PISTOL IF I'M SATISFIED THE HOUSE IS REALLY EMPTY.

RIGHT, SIR!



Devil's Playground

17

THE RUNNER HURRIED BACK DOWN THE SLOPE. THE TROOP THEN MOVED DUE NORTH, THEN AGAIN EASTWARD VIA A GULLY THEY WERE NOT EXPECTING ANY TROUBLE.

CHILLY, AIN'T IT?

MUST BE SOMEBODY WALKIN' OVER YOUR GRAVE, MATE.

COR! CHEERFUL COVE, AINT HE?



BUT TROUBLE WAS WAITING IMPATIENTLY FOR THEM AT THE OTHER END OF THE GULLY...

NOT YET...
NOT YET...



Devil's Playground



A FEW SECONDS LATER,
THE COMMANDOS
WERE WITHIN RANGE.
THE HARSH VOICE OF
THE NAZI OFFICER BROKE
THE TENSE SILENCE...

A BLAST OF SMALL-ARMS' FIRE RIPPED FROM
THE SOUTH RIM. A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, THE
NORTH RIM CAME ALIVE WITH THE CLATTER OF
RIFLES AND MACHINE GUNS AS WELL



Devil's Playground

IN THAT VICIOUS CROSS FIRE OF HOT LEAD,
THE COMMANDOS HAD NO CHANCE...

GIVE 'EM RAPID,
LADS, BUT PULL
BACK! PULL BACK!



GALLANTLY, BARRY'S MEN FOUGHT BACK,
BUT THE ENEMY WERE WELL-COVERED
AND COULD EASILY PICK OFF THE
KHAKI-CLAD FIGURES...

A R G H -



Devil's Playground

THERE SEEMED NO END TO THE
SLAUGHTER. DESPERATELY, THEY
TRIED TO ESCAPE THE HAIL OF DEATH.

A MASSACRE! A
DISASTER AND
UTTER MASSACRE!
IF A SINGLE ONE OF
US GETS OUT OF
THIS ALIVE, IT'LL
BE A MIRACLE!



ONLY A HANDFUL OF
B TROOP SURVIVED
THAT SHAMBLES. MIKE
WAS ONE OF THEM.

FIFTY MEN WIPE OUT IN
A MATTER OF MINUTES.
WHY DIDN'T ONE OF THOSE
BULLETS OR GRENADES HAVE
ANY NUMBER ON IT? HOW
CAN I FACE UP TO IT?

CAPTAIN
BARRY!
CAPTAIN
BARRY!



MIKE RECOGNISED THE RIFLEMAN HE HAD DETAILED AS RUNNER...

THE CO. WANTS YOU DOWN ON THE BEACH RIGHT AWAY, SIR. FAIRLY BLEW HIS TOP, HE DID, AFTER I GAVE HIM YOUR MESSAGE. HE'S HOPPING MAD, SIR.



OLD BLOOD-AND-THUNDER WAS HOPPING MAD ALL RIGHT. HE RAGED AT MIKE BARRY WHEN THE CAPTAIN PRESENTED HIMSELF.

YOU KNOWSHT YOU SAW A NAZI IN THE HOUSE! YOU WERENT POSITIVE, BUT YOU DECDED TO REJECT MY PLAN! I SUPPOSE YOUD CALL THAT 'USING YOUR INITIATIVE'! I'D CALL IT 'FAILING TO OBEY AN ORDER' - AND SO WOULD YOU IF YOUD SERVED IN THE GUARDS!



Devil's Playground

FRESH FUEL WAS ADDED TO THE COLONEL'S WREATH BY A BUILD-UP OF THE ENEMY'S FIRE-POWER...

THE ENEMY HAVE MOVED HEAVY WEAPONS TO OVERLOOK THIS SECTOR! IF YOU'D TAKEN THAT HOUSE AS I DIRECTED, SAWRY, YOU COULD HAVE RAISED THE HIGH GROUND AND DENIED IT TO THEM!



THE ODDS AGAINST THE COMMANDOS MOUNTED SWIFTLY. IT BECAME ALL TOO EVIDENT THAT THE FORCE MUST CUT ITS LOSSES OR FACE ANNIHILATION...

ADJ, I'M CALLING OFF THE OPERATION... NOTHING ELSE FOR IT. GET WORD TO THE OTHER TROOP-COMMANDERS!



THE WITHDRAWAL WAS CARRIED OUT UNDER MURDEROUS FIRE THAT INFECTED FURTHER GRIEVIOUS CASUALTIES...



Devil's Playground

THE SURVIVORS REGAINED THEIR PARENTSHIP. THEY WERE TAKEN ABOARD AND THE HOMeward JOURNEY WAS BEGUN...



THERE GO
THE ENGLANDEES,
HERR OBERST...
LICKING THEIR WOUNDS
—AND WITH LITTLE OR
NOTHING ON THE
CREDIT-SIDE OF
THEIR LEDGER.



OUT AT SEA, COLONEL
DELANEY ANGRILY
VOICED HIS THOUGHTS...

ACH, SO,
MAJOR RHEINSDORF,
ON THE OTHER HAND,
IT IS A PITY SO
MANY OF THEM GOT
AWAY TO FIGHT
ANOTHER DAY.



Devil's Playground

BITTER GLANCES WERE DIRECTED AT A FIGURE STANDING APART. MIKE DELANEY WAS TOO DEEPLY SUNK IN HIS OWN AGONIES TO NOTICE THOSE GLANCES.

“DID I SEE A GERMAN IN THAT HOUSE? IF SO, WAS THE PLACE PACKED WITH NAZIS LYING IN WAIT TO OBLITERATE THE WHOLE COMMANDO? I WISH I KNEW! I ONLY KNOW I DON’T.”



THAT OBSESSION WAS STILL NAGGING AT HIM THE FOLLOWING DAY WHEN, BACK IN ENGLAND, DELANEY SUMMONED HIM TO THE ORDERLY ROOM AT THE COMMANDO UNIT'S BASE.

“BARRY, I CONSIDER I'M SHOWING REMARKABLE FORBEARANCE IN GIVING YOU A CHANCE TO ASK FOR A POSITION IF YOU'VE ANY SENSE AT ALL. YOU'LL ACCEPT MY OFFER.”



Devil's Playground

25

MIKE WAS NOT SHOCKED BY THE COLONEL'S WORDS. HE HAD EXPECTED SUCH A SUGGESTION...

I SEE FROM YOUR DOCUMENTATION THAT YOU WERE STUDYING FOR A DEGREE IN ENGINEERING BEFORE YOU JOINED UP. MY ADVICE TO YOU IS TO APPLY FOR A TRANSFER TO THE ROYAL ENGINEERS.



MIKE FOLLOWED LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DELANEY'S ADVICE AND WITHIN A FEW DAYS HE WAS ON HIS WAY BY TRAIN TO AN RE DEPOT IN THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND.

WHY ARE WE PULLING UP?

PROBABLY AN AIR-RAID ALERT. THE SKY'S CROSS-CROSSED WITH SEARCHLIGHTS.



Devil's Playground

THE TRAIN HALTED. FROM THE WINDOWS, ITS PASSENGERS HAD A GRANDSTAND VIEW OF A BLITZKRIEG BY LUFTWAFFE SQUADRONS.



ACK-ACK GUNS HURLED SHELLS INTO THE NIGHT-SKY.
WEAVING THROUGH A STORM OF METAL, THE ENEMY
RAIDERS UNLOADED THEIR DEADLY FREIGHT...



FROM NOW ON,
THE CIVIES ARE
LIKELY TO BE MORE
IN THE THICK OF THE
WAR THAN I'LL BE. SOMETHING
IN STORE FOR ME! A QUIET
BILLET IN SOME TRAINING-AREA
I DARE SAY. I'LL GO ROUND
THE BEND WITH BOREDOM /

Devil's Playground

THE RAID ENDED, BUT THE TRAIN DID NOT MOVE. A SIGNALMAN EXPLAINED THE REASON AFTER RECEIVING A MESSAGE IN HIS CABIN . . .

WHY THE HOLD-UP NOW?

UNEXPLODED BOMB JUST OUTSIDE THE STATION A SQUAD OF ROYAL ENGINEERS ARE GOING TO DEAL WITH IT. BLOWED IF I'D LIKE THEIR JOB.



A GLEAM OF INTEREST WAS AWAKENED IN MIKE'S EYE . . .

NOW THERE'S AN IDEA. I'LL VOLUNTEER FOR SPECIALISED TRAINING IN DEMOLITION. THAT WAY, I MIGHT HAVE ALL THE EXCITEMENT I WANT.



HE FOLLOWED UP THE NOTION AND IN DUE COURSE WAS ASSIGNED TO A BOMB-DISPOSAL UNIT IN SURREY. SOME WEEKS LATER, LONDON HAD UNWELCOME VISITORS.

SOMEBODY'S FAIRLY COPPING IT, MULLEN.

I RATHER FANCY IT'S THE WANDSWORTH AREA.



RICKY MULLEN WAS A RAKISH-LOOKING YOUNG LIEUTENANT HE FAVOURIED A JAZZY SILK SCARF IN PLACE OF A REGULATION KHAKI TIE HE WOULD HAVE MADE OLD BLOOD-AND-THUNDER'S HAIR CURL.



MEANWHILE, ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES WERE HAMMERING AT THE FLOCK OF HEINKEL BOMBERS DRONING OVERHEAD.



BOMBS WERE RAINING DOWN CONTINUOUSLY - MAINLY INCENDIARIES, THOUGH THE LUFTWAFFE FORMATION WAS DUMPING HIGH-EXPLOSIVE BOMBS AS WELL ...

BOMBS GONE,
PLANGER HAUPTMANN
STEINER!



FIRE PLAZED UP FROM HOME 3 AND FACTORIES & APARTMENT HOLES APPEARED IN THE ORDERLY PATTERN OF SUBURBAN STREETS

THE
LONDONERS
ARE TAKING
HEAVY
PUNISHMENT,
FRANZ.

JAWOHL, AND
WE ARE NOT /
THEIR DEFENCE
IS PATHETIC /



Devil's Playground

MURKIN,
MANZ! YOU
SPOKE TOO
SOON!

IT WAS BY NO MEANS A ONE-SIDED AFFAIR
THAT RAID THREE HEINKELS WERE CLAWED
DOWN IN QUICK SUCCESSION. A BOMB
WAS JETTISONED FROM A FOURTH JUST
AFTER IT WAS HIT...

CRAKEY! TALK
ABOUT A
NIGHTMARE!

NEAR ENOUGH
TO BLOW US ALL
TO KODAKIAN CEMER,
MATE... BUT IT
AIN'T GOING OFF!
GLORY BE,
WE ARE ALIVE!

Devil's Playground

AT DAWN NEXT MORNING, MIKE BARRY AND RICKY MULLEN WENT TO INSPECT THE 'DUO' BOMB...



GET AT IT.
START DIGGING.
BUT FOR PETE'S
SAKE, MIND HOW
YOU GO!

THE BOMB HAD VIRTUALLY BURIED ITSELF,
IT WAS UNCOVERED BY THE BATTERS, AND
AT THE SAME TIME SHORED-UP...



OKAY,
CHAPS, COLLECT
YOUR GEAR AND
HOP IT WHILE
CAPTAIN BARRY
AND I HAVE A
DECKO.

Devil's Playgroung

A MOMENT MORE AND MIKE AND RICKY WERE MAKING A PRELIMINARY INSPECTION...

THIS ONE CALLS FOR KID GLOVES, AND THAT'S A FACT IT'S NOT QUITE LIKE ANY BOMB I'VE EVER BEEN.



IT'S A MODIFIED VERSION OF ONE THAT WAS USED FOR DEMONSTRATION PURPOSES ON THE COURSE I'VE JUST ATTENDED. I THINK I CAN HANDLE IT. HOW'D YOU LIKE TO BACK OFF AND LEAVE THIS TO ME?

ROCKY DECLINED THE WELL-MEANT INVITATION HE PREFERRED TO REMAIN AND STICK OUT HIS NECK, IN CASE HE WAS NEEDED.

CAN'T I GIVE YOU A HAND? ISN'T THERE ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE ME TO DO?

YES, CHUM. I'D LIKE YOU TO PASS DOWN THAT TOOL-KIT AND TO ALSO LIKE YOU TO BELT UP—BEFORE YOU MAKE ME EDGY WITH YOUR IMPERIAL CHARTER.



Devil's Playground

50

THE LIEUTENANT OBEYED, ON BOTH COUNTS. HE SAT SILENT FOR NERVE-TORTURING MINUTES OF SUSPENSE, WHILE MIKE TRIED TO EXTRACT THE SENSITIVE DETONATOR...

MM! OLD GARRY SEEMS TO HAVE A NATURAL GIFT FOR THIS SORT OF JOB. IT'S A SHAKY DO-BUT HE DOESN'T TURN A HAIR!



IT WAS A LONG, DELICATE OPERATION, BUT AT LAST THE EX-COMMANDO GAVE A "THUMBS-UP" SIGN...

RIGHT!
HER FANG'S
BEEN DRAWN.
WHISTLE UP THE
LADS AND TELL
EM SHE'S ALL
THEIRS. THEY CAN
WINCH HER AND
TAKE HER AWAY.



Devil's Playground

NO DOUT OF IT, MIKE POSSESSED A GENIUS FOR THE ROLE HE HAD CHOSEN. IN A MATTER OF WEEKS, MR WORTH RECEIVED OFFICIAL RECOGNITION ...



JUST MY LITTLE JOKE, BARRY. YOU SHOULD NOT BEARING A CROWN ON EACH SHOULDER
INSTEAD OF THREE PIPS. IN
SHORT, YOU'RE NO LONGER A CAPTAIN.
YOU'VE BEEN PROMOTED TO MAJOR!



Devil's Playground

HE WAS GRATIFIED BY THE NEWS OF HIS UP-GRADING.
YET, LATER, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS QUARTERS, HE WAS
OPPRESSED BY A CHAIN OF SOMBRE THOUGHTS...

THAT'S THE WAY IT GOES.
NOT SO LONG AGO I WAS
RIGHT IN THE DOG-HOUSE. I
WONDER IF I DESERVE TO
WEAR A CROWN? MAYBE OLD
BLOOD-AND-THUNDER WOULD
HAVE BEEN WITHIN HIS
RIGHTS IF HE'D HAD ME
COURT-MARTIALED...



THE MEMORY OF THAT
DAWN ADVANCE FROM
A NORWEGIAN BEACH
WAS STILL WITH HIM.
THAT, AND THE FIFTY
DEAD HE MOURNED
AS COMRADES...

WAS I
TO BLAME?
WOULD THEY
STILL BE ALIVE-
IF I'D CARTED
OUT DELANEY'S
COMPLICITIETY
EVIDENCE? I
DON'T THINK



Chapter 3. Second Attempt

FATE HAS A HABIT OF PLAYING THE STRANGEST TRICKS ON A MAN. A MONTH LATER, MIKE LEARNED HE HAD BEEN SELECTED FOR A TRIP ACROSS THE NORTH SEA....



AS YOU'VE NO DOUBT GUessed, IT'S A COMMANDO OP— AGAINST TARGETS WHICH HAVE DEFIED ONE EARLIER ATTEMPT AT DESTRUCTION, IN APRIL LAST.

THESE TARGETS ... WOULD THEY BE AT LERVIK, SIR—AND IS THE UNIT CONCERNED FOURTEEN-FORTY COMMANDO?



Devil's Playground

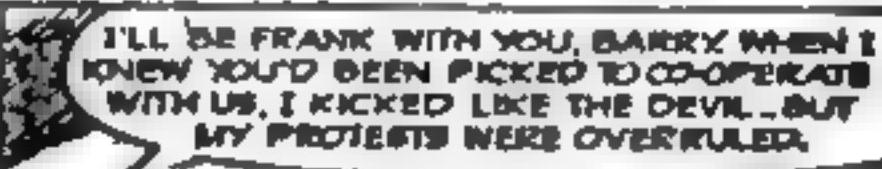
NEXT DAY, MIKE LEFT FOR THE COMMANDO BASE WITH RICKY MULLEN AND TEN OTHER RANK VOLUNTEERS...

I UNDERSTAND YOU KNOW THE MOB WE'RE GOING TO TIE UP WITH, MIKE. WHAT ARE THEY LIKE?



MOSTLY EX-GUARDSMEN, PRINCIPALLY THROUGH AND THROUGH, ESPECIALLY THE CO. FOR PETE'S SAKE. DON'T LET HIM HEAR YOU REFER TO HIS UNIT AS A MOB!

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LATER, IN A BIG MARQUEE THAT SERVED AS AN OFFICERS' MESS, MIKE RENEWED HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH LEUTENANT-COLONEL DELANEY...



I'LL BE FRANK WITH YOU, BARRY. WHEN I KNEW YOU'D BEEN PICKED TO CO-OPERATE WITH US, I KICKED LIKE THE DEVIL... BUT MY PROTESTS WERE OVERRULED.



Devil's Playground

I'M WARNING YOU,
DARCY, JUST THE
SAME. IF YOU LET
ME DOWN AGAIN
BY GOING AGAINST
ORDERS, I'LL MOVE
HEAVEN AND EARTH
TO SEE YOU'RE
DEPRIVED OF
YOUR
COMMUNION!



WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD, DELANEY STAMPED OFF...

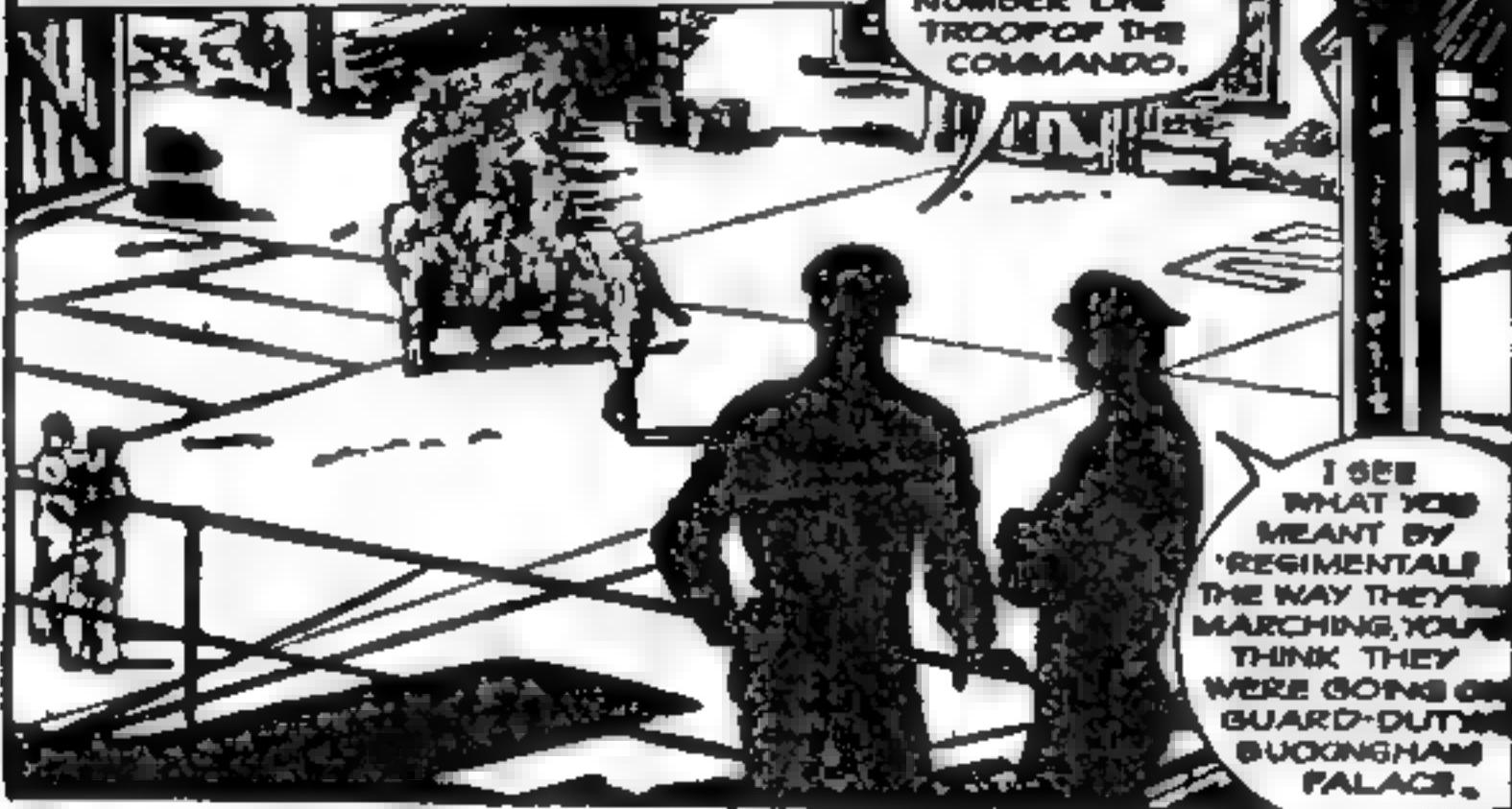
ANOTHER NOT
EXACTLY A
FRIENDLY
TYPE.

NOT WHERE I'M CONCERNED.
BUT THEN HE RECKONS HE
HAS CAUSE TO BITE MY
HEAD OFF. YOU DON'T
KNOW THE CIRCUMSTANCES,
RICKY, AND I DON'T FEEL
DISPOSED TO TALK ABOUT
THEM, IF YOU
DON'T MIND!



Devil's Playground

WERE FOLLOWED A WEEK OF PREPARATION, PLANNING, REHEARSAL. AT THE END OF THAT WEEK, THE MEN INVOLVED IN THE LERVIK OPERATION EMBARDED AT A SCOTTISH PORT...



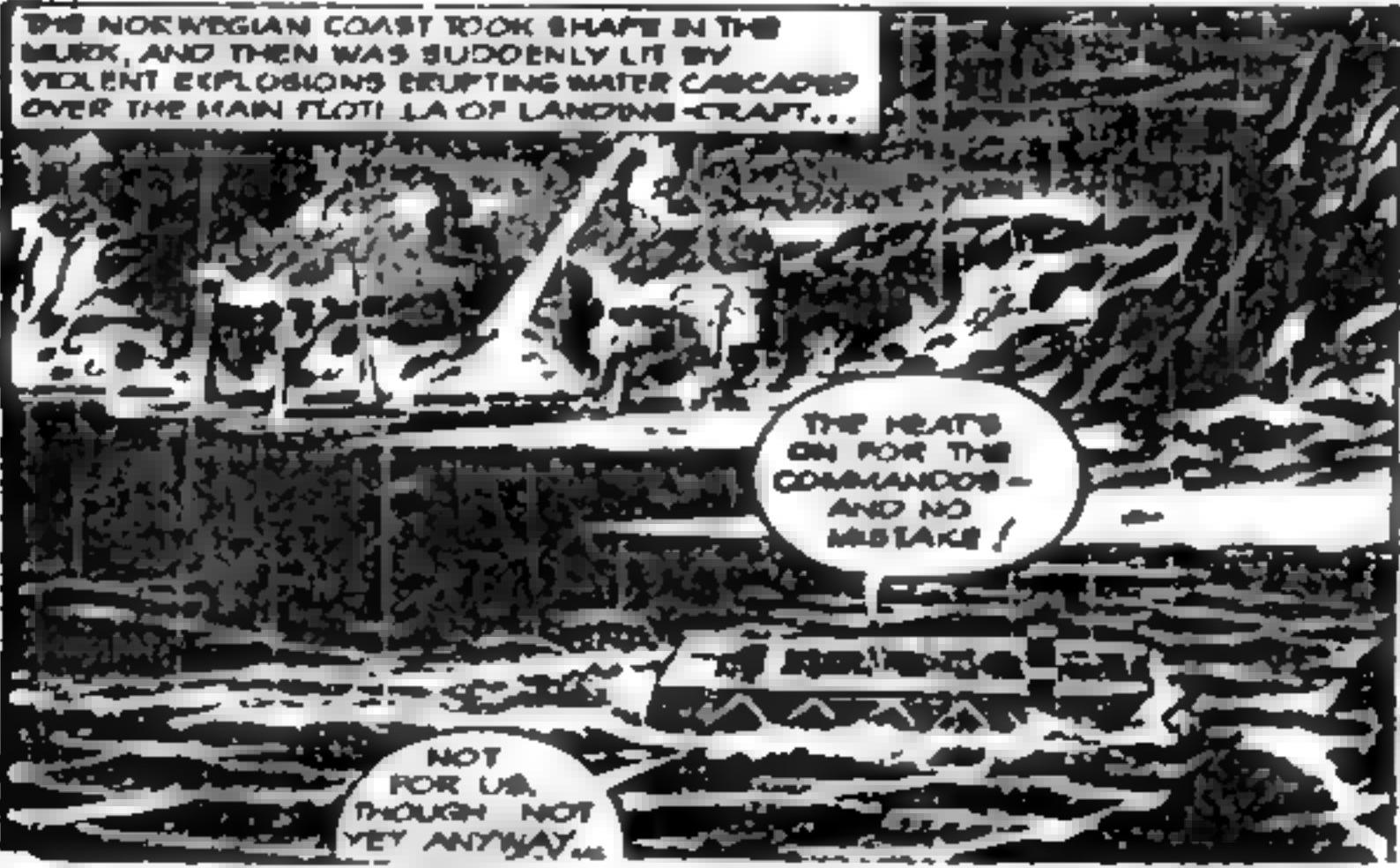
ANOTHER 36 HOURS, AND THREE SHIPS MOVE TO OFF THE COAST OF NORWAY—A COAST OBSCURED BY MIST AND DARKNESS...

Devil's Playground

THE COMMANDOS WERE CARRIED SHOREWARD
SO WERE THE SAPPERS WHO HAD BEEN
ATTACHED TO THEM ...



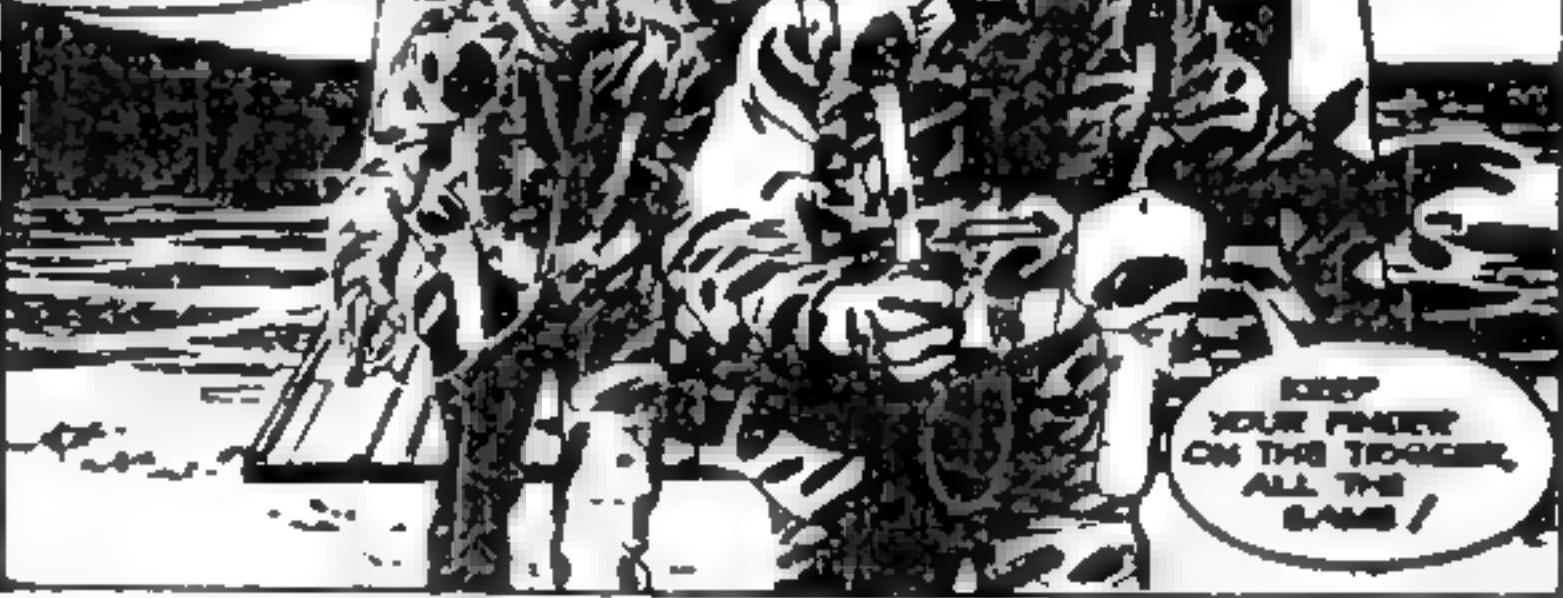
THE NORWEGIAN COAST TOOK SHAPE IN THE MURK, AND THEN WAS SUDDENLY LIT BY VIOLENT EXPLOSIONS ERUPTING WATER CASCADING OVER THE MAIN FLOTILLA OF LANDING CRAFT...



Devil's Playground

BY PREARRANGED DESIGN, THE SAPPERS' LANDING-CRAFT HAD BEEN DIVERTED FROM THE MAIN TASK FORCE. MIKE AND HIS GROUP WERE PUT ASHORE IN A SMALL INLET...

INTELLIGENCE WAS RIGHT. WE WERE TOLD WE COULD EXPECT TO LAND UNOPPOSED WHILE JERRY WAS CONCENTRATING ON THE COMMANDO ATTACK.



THEY PRESSED INLAND, RICKY DROPPING BACK WITH A COUPLE OF THE MEN AS A PRECAUTION AGAINST SURPRISE ENCIRCLEMENT...

JENKINS - TAKE THE LEFT FLANK - ROBERTY, THE RIGHT! KEEP YOUR EYES PEDED!



Devil's Playground

CAUTIOUSLY, THEY WORKED UP OVER HIGH GROUND UNTIL THEY CAME IN SIGHT OF A LARGE HOUSE...A HOUSE THAT BROUGHT BACK A GRIM MEMORY MIKE.

DID THE MAN CALLED NILSEN SPEAK THE TRUTH THAT NIGHT? WAS MY TROOP WIPE OUT JUST BECAUSE I WAS POOLED BY SOME TRICK OF LIGHT-AND-SHADE?



GIVING THE HOUSE A WIDE BERTH, THEY MOVED ON TOWARDS THE TOWN, BUT SOON FOUND THEIR WAY BARRED...

AGAIN, INTELLIGENCE WAS RIGHT. THE APPROACH TO LERVICI BEEN MINED SINCE LAST APRIL - AND NOW!

ACHTUNG!
MINEN!



Devil's Playground

SWIFTLY AND EFFICIENTLY,
THE SAPPERS BEGAN TO
BREACH THE MINEFIELD.



MOFFAT, HURRY
UP AND ASSEMBLE
THAT MINE-DETECTOR.
ROCKY, STAY RIGHT
HERE WITH JENSEN
AND ROBERTS, AND
KEEP ON COVERING
US FROM THE REAR.

MIKE AND HIS BAND ENTERED THE MINE-BELT STEADILY,
CLEARED A PATH THROUGH IT, WHILE SOUNDS OF BATTLE
CONTINUED TO REACH THEM FROM THE COAST...



HERE'S
ONE. I'LL
TAKE A LOOK
AND MAKE SURE
IT'S THE SAME
PATTERN AS THE
OTHERS. KEEP ON
SWEEPING WITH
THE DETECTOR,
MOFFAT!

Devil's Playground

AT THE EDGE OF THE DEATHS-HEAD ZONE, RICKY MULLEN AND HIS MEN PROBED THE GLOOM AROUND THEM SEARCHINGLY. SUDDENLY...



RICKY HAD BEEN TOLD TO STAY WHERE HE WAS, BUT HE RESOLVED TO INVESTIGATE, TAKING HIS TWO MEN WITH HIM...

I'LL BET IT WAS A JERRY PATROL I SPOTTED, SIR!
I'LL SWEAR THERE WAS
MORE 'N ONE MAN.



THEY CREEP THROUGH THE SHADOWS AND FINALLY STALKED CLOSE TO THE SUSPECTS ROBERTS HAD ESPIED...

SHEEP! A FEW STRAY
SHEEP! ROBERTS, YOU
BODDLESS CLOT!



MIKE'S PARTY OF SAPPERS HAD JUST COMPLETED THEIR SWEEP WHEN A HARSH, GUTTURAL VOICE YELLED OUT A COMMAND...

THAT'S THE LOT, BOYS...

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, ENGLANDERS!



AS ONE MAN, THE SAPPERS DIVED FOR COVER. THEIR RIFLES SPINNING A STORM OF BULLETS AT THE GERMANS...

GOOD FOR YOU, LADS! KEEP IT UP! BUT START DRAWING BACK IN EASY STAGES! MOVE IN PAIRS, SIMPSON AND RENNICK FIRST...



Devil's Playground



AS SOON AS WE REJOIN MISTER MULLEN, WE'LL MAKE A GEE-LINE FOR THE INLET WHERE WE LANDED HERE! HOPING WE HAVEN'T DONE OUR STUFF FOR NOTHING, THAT'S ALL.

BUT IN THE REAR OF THE SAPPERS, THERE WAS NO LIEUTENANT MULLEN. INSTEAD, THERE WAS A SQUAD OF GERMANS...



OBVIOUSLY SOME OF THE RAIDERS HAVE INFILTRATED PAST US! THEY MUST BE DEALT WITH!

Chapter 4. *The Big House*

MIKE AND HIS MEN HEARD SHOUTING ABOVE THEM.. A POUNDING OF FEET...
AND THEN, A GUTTURAL COMMAND...



IT WOULD HAVE BEEN USELESS FOR
MIKE TO GIVE THE ORDER TO FIRE. IT
WOULD ONLY HAVE RESULTED IN
THE ANNihilation OF HIS MEN...

THE GAME'S
UP, BOYS. WE
HAVEN'T AN
EARTHLY.



Devil's Playground

THE SAPPERS LAID DOWN THEIR ARMS.
THE NAZIS CLOSED IN ON THEM AND
MARCHED THEM FROM THE MINEFIELD...

HALT! NOW, ENGLANDER,
MAYBE YOU ANSWER
SOME QUESTIONS, HA?

NAME, RANK
AND NUMBER.
THAT'S ALL
YOU'LL GET
OUT OF ME.

A MAN CAME
LOPING DOWN
THE HILLSIDE AT
THAT MOMENT.
HIS BARBERS EYES
SPARKLED WITH
ANGRY RECOGNITION.

HERE LIEUTNANT, THE
TRICK IS WORKING THIS
TIME. THE BRITISH
ARE MOVING STRAIGHT
UP TO THE BIG
HOUSE!

ALL RIGHT.

THE HAUPTMANN SENT ME TO CONTACT YOU. HE WANTS TO BE CERTAIN ALL IS WELL DOWN HERE. IN THE MEANWHILE, EVERYTHING IS IN READINESS AT THE HOUSE—FRONT WINDOWS MANNED, THE CREWS OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTS IN POSITION...



NILSEN WAS TALKING IN GERMAN, BUT MIKE WAS SUFFICIENTLY FAMILIAR WITH THE LANGUAGE TO FOLLOW THE GIST OF WHAT HE WAS SAYING...

SO I WASN'T MISTAKEN THAT MORNING LAST APRIL. AFTER ALL AND IF I HADN'T DONE WHAT I DID, THE WHOLE OF THE COMMANDO WOULD HAVE BEEN BUTCHERED.



WE WILL ACCOMPANY YOU TO THE HOUSE AT ONCE, NILSEN, IN PREPARATION FOR THE AMBUSH, THE PRISONERS WILL REMAIN BY THE MINEFIELD, UNDER GUARD.

THREE NAZIS ARMED WITH SCHMEISSERS WERE LEFT IN CHARGE OF THE ENGLISHMEN.



SIT DOWN—AND PUT HANDS BEHIND HEADS! NO TRICKS! YOU UNDERSTAND?

Devil's Playground

THE CAPTIVES OBEYED. A WRONG MOVE,
AND THE GERMANS WOULD BLAST THEM
INTO ETERNITY WITHIN SECONDS...

THERE'S ONE THING I'D LIKE TO
KNOW. WHY THE DEVIL DID
MULLEN AND HIS MEN DESERT
THEIR POST? WHERE THE
HECK IS HE NOW?



MAKE'S GLOOMY THOUGHTS WERE
SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED BY A SCUFFLING
OF FEET AND A CLIPPED VOICE...

LET OUT SO MUCH AS A
YAP, AND IT'S KAPUT FOR
THE THREE OF YOU!



Devil's Playground

20

AFTER THE CRESTFALLEN
GERMANS WERE QUICKLY
DISARMED AND MADE
SECURE, RICKY EXPLAINED...

I CAN SEE NOW I
MADE A BLOOMER ..
ONLY, THE WAY
THINGS TURNED OUT,
IT'S JUST AS WELL
WE SWANNED
OFF...

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT
BUT DON'T EVER AGAIN GO CHASING
INTO THE BLUE WITHOUT TELLING
ME THE SCORE MEANTIME, WE'VE GOT TO
DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE HOUSE UP THERE!

HE COULD NOT APPLY
TO HIGHER AUTHORITY
FOR GUIDANCE. HE HAD
TO COPE WITH THE
SITUATION OFF HIS OWN
BAT AND HE BELIEVED
HE KNEW A WAY TO
DO JUST THAT

COME ON, ALL OF YOU
— FOLLOW ME !

WHEN THEY REACHED THE VICINITY OF THE HOUSE, MIKE TOLD THE OTHERS HIS PLAN. TEN MINUTES LATER, THEY MOVED OFF...



THEY SPLITT UP INTO PAIRS AND CONTINUED THE APPROACH TO THE SOMBRE BUILDING WHERE DEATH CROUCHED GLINT-EYED WITH EXPECTANCY.



Devil's Playground

31

THEY MANAGED TO REACH THE HOUSE WITHOUT BEING SEEN AND HUDDLED IN THE SHADOW OF ITS REAR WALL.

QUIET.
AIN'T IT, SIR?
YOU'D NEVER GUESS THE PLACE WAS STUFFED WITH JERKIES.

BELIEVE ME,
ROBERTS, IT IS NOW STOP GABBING
AND LET'S HAVE THAT PACK OF YOURS.



IN THE FRONT ROOM OF THE HOUSE, THERE WERE MAZES BY THE SQUAD, ALL RUSHING TO OPEN FIRE...



34 Devil's Playground

THE NIGHT THERE WAS TENSE THE GERMANS HAD BEEN ON GUARD FOR MANY HOURS AND THEY WERE TIRED AND IRRITABLE.



THERE WERE MEN GATHERED BEHIND LONG-BARRELED EIGHTY EIGHTS, DEEP IN THE SHADOWS OF WHAT HAD BEEN A GROUND-FLOOR BANQUETING HALL ...



THE MIST HAD LIFTED. FRESH FROM CLEARING THE BEACH OF OPPOSITION, THE COMMANDOS WERE ADVANCING IN OPEN ORDER . . .

I WONDER IF DAIRY AND HIS SAPPERS HAVE PREPARED THE WAY FOR US THROUGH THE MINEFIELD, COLONEL?

I'M NOT COUNTING ON IT, ADJ!



GLOATINGLY, A NAZI HAUPTMANN WATCHED THEM APPROACH NEARER AND NEARER AT LAST, HE SHRIEKED OUT THE ORDER . . .



THERE WAS A SERIES OF SHATTERING EXPLOSIONS... BUT NOT FROM THE MUZZLES OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTS. INSTEAD, THEY CAME FROM THE REAR OF THE HOUSE!

FLAT ON YOUR FACES, LADS! DOWN!



58 Devil's Playground

THE BACK OF THAT IMPRESSIVE ABOUE WAS BLOWN OUT DEBRIS SOARED THROUGH THE AIR AND SMASHED DOWN IN A TERRIFYING RAIN...

STONE THE CROWS! WE OVERDID IT A BIT, DIDN'T WE? I'LL LAY A POUND TO A PINCH OF SALT WE AINT LEFT OURSELVES ENOUGH JELLY FOR THE MAIN JOG!



SICKLELY MINED, ROCKED TO ITS FOUNDATIONS, THE GREAT HOUSE BEGAN TO DISINTEGRATE FLOORS SPLIT ASUNDER



Devil's Playground

SUPPORTING PILLARS COLLAPSED MASONRY
AND TIMBER THUNDERED DOWN AS CEILINGS,
BALUSTRADES AND ROOF CAVED-IN.

A R G H!

THROUGH SWIRLING SMOKE AND DUST, NAZI
SURVIVORS OF THE DEBACLE SCURRIED OUT
INTO THE OPEN IN WILD PANIC...

HERE THEY
COME! LIKE
RATS FLUSHED
FROM A
HAYSTACK!

Devil's Playground

THE NAZIS WERE AS OBSESSIVE AND CORROSIVE
AS RATS - AND A SIGHT MORE DANGEROUS ...



RIFLES AND CAPTURED SCHMEISSERS
BLURRED IN A DEVILISH TATTOO AS
THE SAPPERS PICKED OFF THE
NAZIS, SNUFFING OUT THEIR SHOW
OF RESISTANCE ...

GIVE IT TO
'EM, BOYS!



Devil's Playground

A FEW MINUTES LATER, AND THE BATTLE WAS OVER, JUST AS THE SKYLINE SPROUTED THE TOUGH FIGURES OF THE COMMANDOS ...



HERE COME
THE COMMANDOS!
THEY'VE JUST
FOUGHT THEIR WAY
ASHORE, YET SOMEHOW
THEY LOOK AS IF THEY
WERE ON PARADE.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DELANEY AND HIS ADJUTANT MADE
A SWIFT INSPECTION OF THE GUTTED HOUSE ...

LOOK AT THOSE
'EIGHTY-EIGHT'
BARRELS STICKING
OUT OF THE RUBBLE,
COLONEL! WE'VE
HAD A LUCKY
ESCAPE -

YES, BY THE
STARS-AND-UNLUCK
I'M MISTAKEN, WE
OWE OUR LIVES TO
BARRY AND HIS MEN.

Devil's Playground

MIKE AND HIS PARTY JOINED UP WITH THE MAIN BODY OF THE RAIDERS THE GAP IN THE MINEFIELD WAS POINTED OUT..

STRAIGHT AS YOU CAN GO, COLONEL YOU CAN'T MISS THE SAFETY-LANE. IT'S MARKED WITH TAPE.

THANK YOU, MAJOR BARRY THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.



THE RAIDERS PENETRATED THE MINE BOLT THEN PANNED OUT FOR THE DESCENT ON LFRVVK ALL AT ONCE, A STORM OF LEAD CHALLENGED THEM ..

THE JERRIES HAVE RALLEO. ADJ, GET WORD TO NUMBER ONE TROOP TO GIVE COVERING-FIRE FROM THE LEFT FLANK. THE REST OF THE COMMANDOS WILL PUT IN A FRONTAL ASSAULT.



Devil's Playground

THE ATTACK ON LERVIK WAS SWIFTLY MOUNTED AND PREPARED HOME WITH A FEROCIOUS YET DISCIPLINED RESOLUTION THAT QUICKLY BROKE THE ENEMY'S RESISTANCE . . .

FORWARD, LADS!

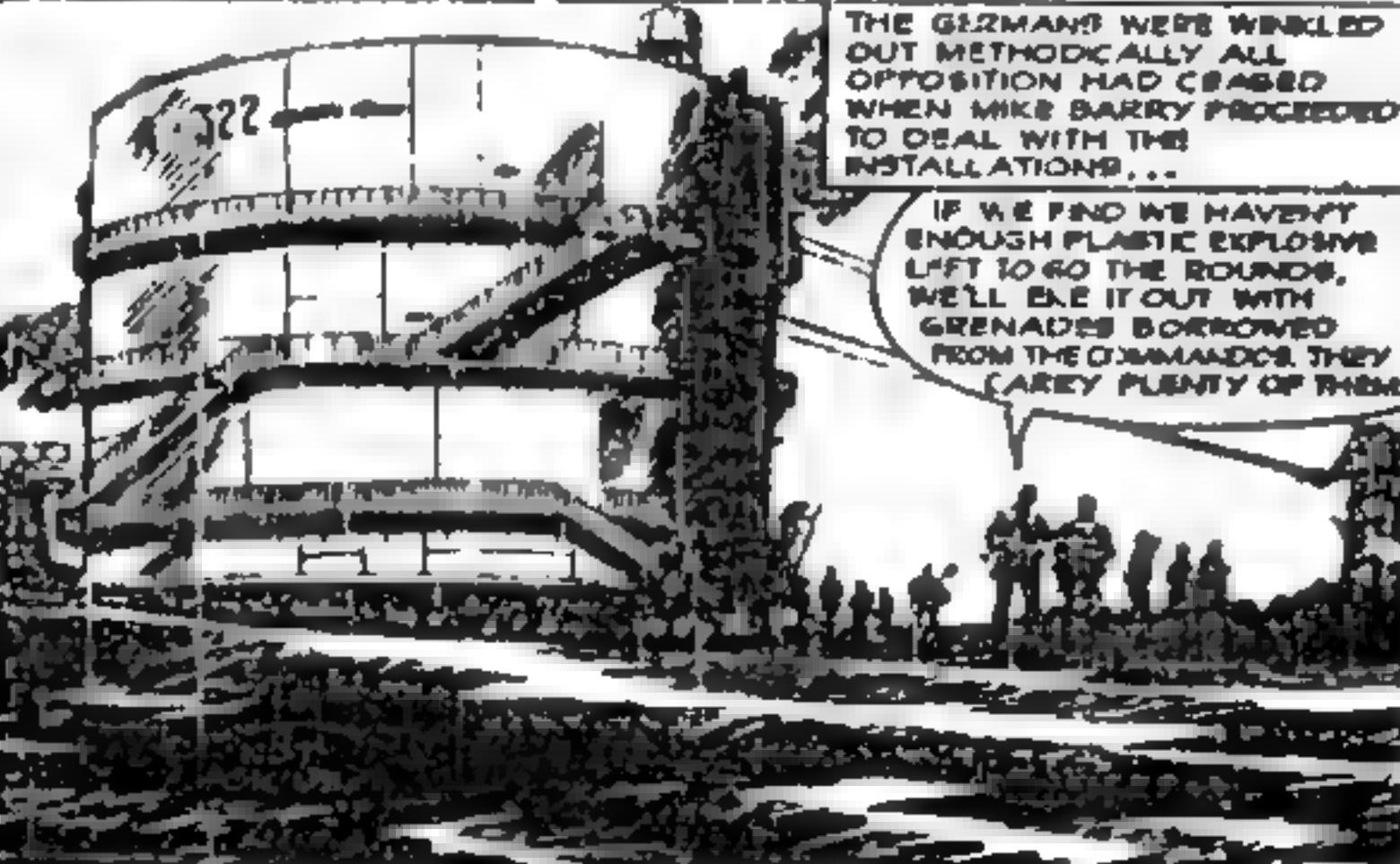
I WANT THAT TOWN SWEPT CLEAR FROM END TO END!



THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER HEARD OLD BLOOD-AND-THUNDER CALL US 'LADS'. WHAT'S COME OVER HIM?

THE GERMANS WERE WINKLED OUT METHODICALLY ALL OPPOSITION HAD CEASED WHEN MIKE BARRY PROCEEDED TO DEAL WITH THE INSTALLATIONS . . .

IF WE FIND WE HAVENT ENOUGH PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE LEFT TO GO THE ROUNDS, WELL BEE IT OUT WITH GRENADES BORROWED FROM THE COMMANDOS. THEY CAREY PLENTY OF THEM.



Devil's Playground

THE SAPPERS MADE SHORT WORK
OF THOSE INSTALLATIONS. OIL-STORING
TANKS WERE RIPPED APART, LICKED
BY HORRIFIC BLOUSES OF FLAME.



A RADIO-COMMUNICATION CENTRE
WAS BLASTED TO DESTRUCTION



THAT RADIODI-
STATION COULD
BE RADED BY JERRY MAUL AND
AIR FORCE UNITS
BASED ON NORWAY.

Devil's Playground

63

IN LESS THAN AN HOUR, THE TRIUMPHANT BRITISH
STARTED BACK FOR THE BEACH IN CEREMONIAL STYLE...



TROOP AFTER TROOP WENT BY. MIKE
FELL IN WITH HIS SAPPERS,
ACCOMPANIED BY DELANEY...

COLONEL, I'M
BOLUND TO SAY
THIS... WHEN
IT COMES TO
SOLDIERING,
MEN TRAINED
IN THE GUARDS
HAVE THAT EXTRA
SOMETHING
NODDY ELSE
HAS GOT.

IN THE LAST
FEW HOURS, MAJOR
DARRY, I'VE LEARNED
THAT A MAN CAN
FOLLOW ORDERS TOO
SLAVISHLY. INITIATIVE
CAN COUNT FOR
A GREAT DEAL...

FRIENDLY NORWEGIAN CIVILIANS HAD
GATHERED TO GIVE THEM A RAPTORUS
SEND-OFF...

NO QUIGGLINGS
AMONG THEM,
THAT'S FOR
SURE.



Devil's Playground

BUT LARS NILSEN WAS NOT WATCHING THE VICTORIOUS BRITISH. HE LAY IN THE RUBBLE OF A HOUSE WHICH HAD BEEN INTENDED AS A DEATH-TRAP... BUT WHICH HAD PROVED A DEATH-TRAP FOR HIM...



Printed in England by Messrs. Percy Brothers Ltd., Manchester 1, and published each month by Fleetway Publications Ltd., Fleetway House, Finsbury Square, London, E.C.4. Advertising Offices: Trinity House, Titch Street, London, E.C.4. Agents: Australia: Murray, Gordon & Gailey Ltd. South Africa: Central News Agency Ltd. Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland: Mawer, Kingdom Ltd. WAR PICTURE LIBRARY is sold subject to the following conditions, that it shall not, without the written consent of the Publishers first given, be lent, re-sold, hired out or otherwise disposed of by way of Trade, except at the full retail price as shown on the cover; and that it shall not be lent, re-sold, hired out or otherwise disposed of in a mutilated condition, or in any unauthorised copy by way of Trade; or affixed to or as part of any publication or advertisement, literary or pictorial matter whatever.

ALSO ON SALE NOW

FOR WAR THRILLS . . . ACTION . . . DRAMA . . .

WAR PICTURE LIBRARY

No. 180—THE BIG GAME



His quarry was the biggest prize of all, but it was even more than the famed white hunter could handle—alone.

No. 183—TOWER OF STRENGTH



The honour of friend and foe was at stake and only one man could stop the blood flowing.

ALSO ON SALE NOW :—

No. 181—ROGUE LANCASTER

Next month's **FOUR** thrilling **WAR PICTURE LIBRARY** issues, on sale 4th March, are :—

No. 184—DANGER NO OBJECT **No. 186—THE BLOOD OF HEROES**
No. 185—LOST JUNGLE **No. 187—THE BOMBER BARONS**

SEND ONE STAMP

You get back

116

DIFFERENT STAMPS PLUS

42

STAMP SIZE

PORTRAITS OF THE

Kings & Queens of England

Just look at this exciting offer! You get giant collection of 116 all different genuine stamps. Here are some highlights: TOGO-set of 2 Yuri Gagarin Spaceman; CHAD-4 exotic animal triangles; POLYNESIA-2 South Sea beauty queens; ALBANIA-set of 4 old imperforate "Double Eagles". MONACO-giant Lourdes diamond shape. (So far every stamp is in brilliant mint condition).

Also: MALDIVES-U.N. Anniv.; new African country of RWANDI-Independence stamp with map (also mint). JAPAN-New Year. This splendid collection includes triangles, diamonds, imperfs, hard-to-get countries and many fascinating and unusual stamps and sets from all over the world. Grand total 116 all different genuine stamps.

FREE IF YOU ORDER NOW, 42 STAMP SIZE PORTRAITS OF KINGS OF ENGLAND SINCE WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

This fabulous showpiece cannot be obtained elsewhere at any price!



**ALL YOURS FOR JUST 1/-
IN UNUSED STAMPS (OR POSTAL ORDER)
TO INTRODUCE FAMOUS BARGAIN APPROVALS.**

Approvals are stamps sent for inspection and purchase. They are the easiest and most interesting way to build a collection at a low cost—and enjoy stamp collecting. But please tell your parents you are answering this advertisement.

**ASK FOR
LOT P18**

BROADWAY APPROVALS.

50, DENMARK HILL,
LONDON, S.E.5.

LOT
P18

I enclose 1/-, Rush me the 116 different stamps plus the 42 Portraits. Send a selection of bargain approvals for free examination.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

POST
COUPON
TODAY

(Please print carefully)

Please tell your parents you are answering this advertisement.